

Technology Shortcuts That Save You Money During Hot Summer Months

Conserve Water During Hot Summer Months

Hot summer months are when our city's water usage reaches its peak. For homeowners there are some simple ways you can make adjustments to your sprinkler system and see the savings on your water bill.

Convert Flowerbeds to Drip Irrigation

If your flowerbeds use pop-up spray heads, consider the benefits of converting to a water-saving drip system. A drip system applies water more efficiently by slowly emitting water to the soil around your plants' roots. This is where plants need their water the most. This reduces the chance that water will be wasted through evaporation or runoff.

There are several drip system varieties that can meet your landscape's unique watering needs. Converting can be simple since drip tubing does not have to be buried. Some types can be buried beneath the soil or mulch. Just remember that if you want to install a drip irrigation system, the entire zone must be converted. We recommend that you hire a licensed irrigation company to help install a drip irrigation system.

Test Your Rain Sensor

Most homes in Frisco have a rain/freeze sensor for the sprinkler system that will automatically shut off a sprinkler system. Rain/freeze sensors are typically attached to a rain gutter or a fence near the sprinkler system's controller.

But in many cases, I've found that these devices don't work because their batteries were not replaced or spider webs grew inside that need to be cleaned out. You can clean out the sensor by taking the top off of the rain sensor and cleaning out debris that may interfere with operation.

A simple test to make sure the sensor is working is to spray the outside device with water, then check to see if the controller box in the garage shows a red indicator light. If you know the sensor is wet and the controller does not register it, the batteries likely need to be changed. You can also hold down the small stem in the top of the rain sensor, and the red indicator light should show on the inside box.

Check Your Watering Schedule

During hot summer months it is important to make sure the proper amount of water is applied to your landscape. Homeowners often end up over-watering or under-watering if watering schedules are not set properly. If you have a smart controller that uses weather based information, make sure it is programmed properly.

Once you make these changes, you should notice a reduction in your water bill.

Contact Mike for a free irrigation check-up at 972-292-5844 or email waterwise@friscotexas.gov

Happy Watering!

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